



The Torch

The official newsletter for Indiana state employees

Taking time out to honor our own

It is early and not everything is in place, but plan on celebrating Public Service Recognition Week May 5 through 11. It's actually an event to honor federal, state and local government workers, and the State of Indiana is joining in to honor its employees during that week.

Every year since 1985 the first Monday through Sunday in May has been a time to thank employees who work in federal, state and local government. All over the U.S. activities will be going on to increase awareness regarding the work that public employees do on a local and national level and to recognize them for a job well done. Activities range from festivals, open houses, and community clean-ups to one of the largest, an annual celebration on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. where over 100 agencies and programs exhibit.

In Indianapolis there will be an interactive health and wellness fair on Friday, May 9 at the Indianapolis Government Center with over 25 vendors. Vendors will include state agencies and local organizations that are active in the health and wellness community. Participants will have the opportunity to take part in various activities including free blood pressure screenings and chair massages.

Also during this week Governor Daniels will recognize state employees at the Governor's Public

Let us talk about YOU!

Should your agency/district/office decide to do something special during that week, send us your photos and a description of what you did and we will publish them. Make sure to identify those in the pictures. E-mail the information/photos to spdcommunications@spd.in.gov. Make sure to include a name and phone number of someone we can contact, in case we have questions.

Service Achievement Awards (GPSAA) reception. The GPSAA recognizes employees who have gone above the call of duty to make Indiana state government more efficient and effective.

To thank all state employees the State Personnel Department is working on providing special discounts during this week. Currently scheduled are discounted tickets for Saturday, May 10 to the Indianapolis Zoo (\$11 adults and \$7 children/seniors) and for the Indianapolis Indians game (\$6 for reserved and lawn seats and \$10 for box seats) that evening. Details and updates on these activities and more can be found on the SPD Web site www.in.gov/jobs/programs.

If you are interested in learning more about the Public Service Recognition Week and how to recognize your agency's employees, log on to the Public Employees Roundtable Web site www.excelgov.org and click on programs on the left side of the page.

Kroger offers \$4 prescriptions

Your dollar might go further at Kroger's now that the grocery giant offers an array of generic prescription drugs for \$4. Kroger joins the list of other large retail stores offering the discounted drugs. Those retailers include Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, Meijer and Target.



Kroger's \$4 price applies to more than 300 generic drugs prescribed for 30-day supplies. A list of participating Kroger stores and eligible drugs is available at www.kroger.com/generic or call toll free, 877-479-5478.

Find out what prescriptions are available from what retailer by logging on to State Personnel's Web site at: www.in.gov/jobs/.

State offices closed for Good Friday

All Indiana state government offices will be closed on Friday, March 21 in observance of Good Friday.

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Carpooling saves gas, congestion, road rage

With gasoline prices at all time highs, increased air pollution and road rage, now might be a good time to consider carpooling to work. The Central Indiana Commuter Services (CICS) will do its best to match rides for those interested. Currently the program is available in Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Madison, Marion, Morgan and Shelby counties. It is not limited to state employees.

CICS is a federally funded program whose purpose is to decrease air pollution and traffic congestion by increasing alternatives to driving for commuters. One of those solutions is ridesharing. Ridesharing can take the form of carpooling, vanpooling,

taking advantage of mass transit, biking or walking.

There is no charge to those taking advantage of CICS' services, some of which includes:

- Matching rides for carpools and vanpools
- Database of commuters wanting to rideshare (classified ads seeking riders/drivers, etc.)
- Commuter brochure, advertising, interactive Web site, toll free phone number, highway signs, promotions and various events for commuters

For more information on CICS and to calculate your savings, visit the Website at www.centralincommuter.net.

CICS will calculate what it costs to commute

Round trip mileage from home to work	22
Average miles per gallon of vehicle	32
Type of car	Small sedan
Current price of gas per gallon	\$2.99
Parking fees	0

That information was calculated and here are the costs:

Total cost to commute each day	\$8.13
Total cost to commute each month (20 days/ month)	\$162.60
Total cost to commute each year (240 working days/year)	\$1,951.20



I-File is the Indiana Department of Revenue's free Web-based tax filing service that allows you to file your Indiana individual income taxes quickly and securely

Password reset available to all

You can now help yourself when you need to reset your password. IOT Customer Service (ICS) recently expanded its self-service password reset system to all state employees. Previously, the system would work only for computers connected to the state network.



The Self-Service Password Reset allows you to reset your password 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week without talking to ICS. And now, all state users can use the system to reset their passwords - anytime, anywhere! A short enrollment process is required before you begin using the system.

To get started, go to <http://passwordreset.iot.IN.gov> and use your current computer username and password to log in to the system. From there, you will answer eight security questions that will be used in the future to verify your identity should you need to reset your password. For more detailed instructions about enrollment, please view the Self-Service Password Reset Quick Reference Guide.

Once you are enrolled, you can reset your password anytime using the automated system. Call (317) 234-HELP (4357) or (800) 382-1095 and press one (1) during the recording to be taken to the automated password reset system. After correctly answering three of your security questions to verify your identity, you will be given a temporary 15-minute password that will allow you to log on to your computer and change your password to something of your choosing.

Indiana Department of Transportation launches engineering scholarship program

An engineering scholarship program, created by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) hopes it serves two purposes: to provide an education in engineering and to keep talented engineers in the state. Because this scholarship is for students who have been accepted into an Indiana engineering college, the first year a student would be able to receive a scholarship would be his/her sophomore year.

“Indiana’s transportation system is our state’s economic future, and to create a world-class transportation system we need world-class engineers,” said INDOT Commissioner Karl B. Browning. “INDOT’s engineering scholarship will turn some of the brightest students in Indiana into exceptional civil engineers, and then put their engineering knowledge to work building a better future for Hoosiers.”

The new scholarship program leverages federal transportation funding to offer civil engineering scholarships to students enrolled at

one of Indiana’s seven Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology certified engineering colleges. Eligible university programs include Purdue, Tri-State and Valparaiso universities, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, and the universities of Evansville, Notre Dame and Southern Indiana.

Scholarship recipients will receive more than \$3,000 a semester for up to five years of college, including up to two years of graduate school. Each academic semester, INDOT will make scholarship payments to 20 engineering students. In return, recipients will work at INDOT in full-time, paid positions during their college summer breaks. After graduation, scholarship recipients will work six months at INDOT for each academic semester they received a scholarship.

For more information on the INDOT Engineer Scholarship program, contact Tim Starkey at tstarkey@indot.in.gov or to download a scholarship application, visit INDOTScholarship.IN.gov.



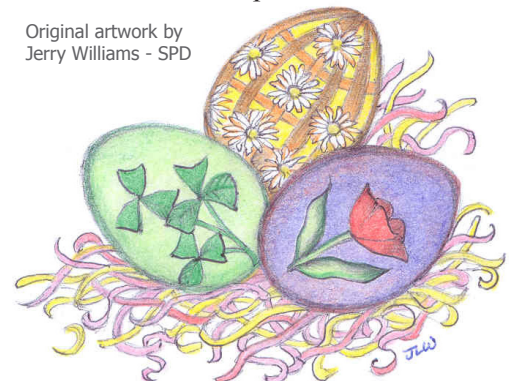
Governor Daniels talks with local civic leaders at a Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce luncheon to promote his property tax relief proposal.

Err on the side of caution

When you enter parking lots and parking garages, be aware of your surroundings and on the look out for suspicious activity. The Indiana State Police recommend a few tips for your safety, whether you are at work, at the grocery store or the ballpark:

- Keep valuables out of plain sight, preferably locked in the trunk of your vehicle.
- Keep doors locked and windows up as you drive through the facility.
- If possible, park in a well-lit area.
- If possible, park near an exit or elevator.
- Become familiar with the locations of security cameras and emergency call buttons throughout the facility.
- Report suspicious activity or persons to an attendant.
- Lock every entrance to your vehicle.
- Return to your vehicle in a group. If you see suspicious activity, ask an attendant to escort you to your vehicle.
- Have your keys ready as you approach your vehicle.
- Look inside your car before you unlock the door and get in. If you are concerned for any reason, simply walk past it and find help.
- Leave the parking spot immediately after everyone is situated and seatbelts are fastened – don’t stay and write notes, balance checkbooks or talk on the phone.
- If you are unable to locate your car, don’t be afraid to ask a parking attendant for help.

Original artwork by
Jerry Williams - SPD



March Classifieds

Please respect the following rules when submitting items:

- Ads are limited to state employees only.
- Contact information must include either a phone number with area code (home or cell, no state numbers) or a home e-mail address.
- Submit ads via e-mail to spdcommunications@spd.in.gov, information must be included in the body of the e-mail, no photos or attachments. No bold or italic type, no ALL CAPS.
- Limit one ad per employee per issue; each ad has a limit of three items.
- Deadline is the 10th of the month prior to the next issue.
- If garage sale, need to list times, date, street address and town.
- No selling of animals; but will list "free" animals.
- No real estate, for sale or rent, including mobile homes, manufactured housing, timeshares, etc.
- No Avon, Mary Kay, vitamins, etc.
- No businesses or professional services (i.e., tax preparation, car repair, etc.).
- Ads will run for one issue only.
- State Personnel Department staff reserves the right to edit and/or refuse any ads.

1994 GMC Yukon; 2 door, 6" pro comp suspension lift, 35" BFG mud terrain, tires in good shape, new brakes, everything runs great, 117k mi. \$6,500 obo. Call 317-989-4561.

1999 Saturn SC2; 3 door, great on gas, great condition, new tires, 96k mi. \$4,500 obo. Call Eric, 317-462-6069 or e-mail sacredmpp@gmail.com.

2003 Dodge Ram 4 door extended cab; black w/ black leather interior, fully loaded, AM/FM/CD, all power, temp. & direction gauge, tinted windows, bed cover, bed liner, sun roof. \$1,400 obo. E-mail Pam at vision40pk@aol.com.

1995 Lowe 17' aluminum bass boat & trailer; 50 HP Johnson Outboard, Johnson 12-24 volt trolling motor, foot pedal driven, live wells w/ auto/manual water fill, Hummingbird depth finder, storage bins, rod holder, AM/FM/CD

w/ built in speakers, bilge pumps, spare propellers (1 for 50 HP, 1 for Trolling motor), anchor. \$4,750. Contact Mike, 765-404-7150.

Farmland (IN) Volunteer Fire Department (Randolph Co.) seeks donation of refrigerator for fire station. Contact Molly, 765-744-1739 or the department at www.farmlandfire.com

Ceiling fans w/ lights; two white, one wood color, good condition; \$15 ea. Phone 812-405-2149 after 6 p.m. or leave msg.

RCA 3-component universal remote w/ owner's manual; model #RCR311ST, date code 1507P, add'l info at www.rca.com; \$2.50. GPX portable CD player w/ owner's manual; blue, model #C3912AQUA, headphones, AC-DC adapter; \$5. GE 900 MHz cordless phone w/ digital answering machine; silver, model #26990GE3, owner's manual & box, not caller-ID compatible. \$10. Contact Christina, 317-403-3504.

Need good used electric hospital bed. E-mail jim.wilkinson@sbcglobal.net

Cub Cadet 724 snow blower; 7HP electric start, 2 stage auger-thrower, 24" path, 6 forward & 2 reverse speeds, Halogen headlight, well maintained, excellent condition; \$600. Call Bob, 317-896-3912 or e-mail rmo-ran7629@aol.com

1985 Chevy P/U 4X4 shortbed, new paint & upholstery, 8K on new engine & rebuilt tranny. \$4,000. Contact Bill, Terre Haute, 812-240-0850.

1982 Ford pickup; new engine, starter, fuel pump, water & oil pumps, alternator, tires & brakes; no battery, body rough, metal toolbox, drive it or put engine in something else; \$600. Call 317-694-0383.

1999 bright red Pontiac Grand Prix GT; 4 dr, power everything but roof, tilt, cruise, defog, mags, leather, clean, everything works, 94K mi; \$6,495. Call 812-482-6986 or e-mail bnbkuester@insightbb.com

Wedding gown; size 12, ivory, off the shoulder, beaded bodice, long train, garment bag, never worn. \$250. Call Megan, 765-717-2619.

3 kittens; 2 almost grown (10 mos.); black/white male & gray longer furred tabby, both

spayed/neutered, littered trained & friendly; 3rd kitten is gray female tabby, shy, 5 mos., not neutered. Call Ron or Jill, 765-654-6070 or e-mail fischymail-ron@yahoo.com.

1996 Honda Accord EX; V6, AT, AC, ABS, black, excellent condition, power doors, windows & driver seat; cruise control, leather, moon roof, new tires, CD player, spoiler, alloy wheels. 134K. \$4,200 obo. 2001 Honda Odyssey EX; dark grey, excellent working condition, well maintained, ABS, front & rear AC & audio/fan controls, security, power sliding doors & seat, CD player, quad seating, alloy wheels. 126K mi. \$7,800 obo. E-mail efimandanna@yahoo.com or call 317-809-9099.

Kenmore range hood w/ 2-speed fan & light; like new condition, \$75. Call Sam, 317-892-4239 or e-mail scarman@tds.net.

Anthem® EAP

We're here to help make life easier.

The Indiana State Personnel Department and Anthem EAP put convenient and confidential resources within reach to help keep you and your loved ones healthy and happy.

The Easy Program
AnthemEAP.com

Call for free, confidential help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
1-800-223-7723



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Total Wellness Is Our Vision.

Your EyeMed benefit is an important part of overall health.

Many of us know how important it is to have regular dental check-ups. But how many of us have our eyes examined each year?

Like oral health, vision care plays a crucial role in ensuring overall wellness. A comprehensive eye examination can lead to the earliest detection of vision problems, as well as health problems including diabetes and high blood pressure. And because early detection is key for treatment, regular eye examinations play a vital role in ensuring a healthy life.

Take care of your vision and overall health while saving on your eye care and eyewear needs by taking advantage of your EyeMed benefit plan. Choose from thousands of providers nationwide, including optometrists, ophthalmologists, opticians and the nation's leading optical retailers:

LENSCRAFTERS®

SEARS
Optical

OPTICAL

it's all inside.
JCPenneyoptical

PEARLE VISION


PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS

It's easy! Simply locate a provider near you, schedule an appointment, and present your member ID card at the provider location. Your EyeMed provider will take care of the rest!

To learn more about your vision benefit or to locate a provider near you, visit www.eyemedvisioncare.com.



The Back Page

No prescription needed

An allergy medication once available only by prescription can now be purchased over the counter (OTC), without a doctor's prescription.

The FDA has approved the OTC sale of Zyrtec, Zyrtec-D 12-hour tablets and their generic counterparts for adults and children 12 years of age and older.

Zyrtec joins several other allergy medications that have been approved for OTC sale, including Allegra, Allegra-D 12 Hour, Allegra-D 24 Hour, Clarinex, Clarinex-D, Claritin, Claritin-D 24 Hour and Xyzal. Both the brand and generic medications are available.



Underwood, Sugarland coming to State Fair

Two popular country music acts are coming to the Indiana State Fair this summer. Former American Idol winner Carrie Underwood and the duo Sugarland have been announced as part of the fair's concert lineup.

The rest of the concert lineup will be announced in the coming months. Tickets for both shows go on sale Saturday, April 12 at 10 a.m.

Tickets are available at the Indiana State Fair booth at Country Music Expo (Apr. 12-13), Indiana State Fairgrounds Box Office at (317) 927-1482, all Ticketmaster locations; www.ticketmaster.com; or charge-by-phone at (317) 239-5151. For more information, call the Indiana State Fairgrounds Box

Office at (317) 927-1482. All tickets include Fair Admission.

Underwood will perform on Friday, August 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Indiana State Fair Grandstand. Tickets are priced at \$40.50, \$57.50 and \$75.50. Sugarland is scheduled to play on Tuesday, August 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Grandstand. Tickets for this show are priced at \$30, \$40 & \$60.

If you purchase concert tickets within 10 days of show they will be put in Will Call and you must pay gate admission to enter the Fairgrounds. When you purchase your concert ticket it will then be discounted the \$8 gate admission.

The State Fair runs August 6-17.

Three agencies honored for MBE/WBE program participation



The Indiana Department of Correction (DOC), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Department of Workforce Development (DWD) were all recognized for their outstanding utilization of minority and women's businesses at a February 13 event held at the Indiana Government Center.

George Thompson of DHS (pictured left) accepted a certificate from Department of Administration Commissioner Carrie Henderson at the Minority & Women's Business Enterprises event held at the Indiana Government Center. Also accepting awards on behalf of their respective agencies were Nicholas Long for DOC and Barbara Taylor of DWD.

The Indiana Minority and Women's Business Enterprises Division is a multi-purpose service agency for all Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) and Women Business Enterprises (WBE).

2008 Bill Watch up and running

Legislation approved by the General Assembly has started to arrive in the governor's office for Governor Daniels' action. In an effort to keep state employees (and anyone else) up to date, the 2008 Bill Watch on the governor's Web site is now active. From the governor's Web site, you can find the link in the Newsroom section. The page is updated as bills are received and/or action is taken by the governor.

Visit the 2008 Bill Watch at www.in.gov/gov/3246.htm.

On behalf of the State of Indiana, the Minority and Women's Business Enterprises Division actively promotes, monitors and enforces its MBE/WBE program in order to provide an equal opportunity to minority and women's business enterprises that seek to participate in the state's procurement and contracting process.

For more information about the Indiana Minority and Women's Business Enterprises Division, visit its Web site at www.in.gov/idoa/2867.htm.